

# Ayden Christian Church NEWSLETTER

2023  
MAY

Wednesday, May 24

## From the Pastor

This past Sunday, Melissa Acres from the Regional Shared Ministry team visited with us. She was here as a representative of the region simply to reiterate for us the support of the region in our new shared ministry endeavor. I had an opportunity to talk with her later (she was also in church at Red Oak). She reminded me of the importance of both congregations being flexible as we move forward. Remember, this is new for both congregations, but also for the region. So far, we have already learned that even though I have a schedule, that schedule often needs to be changed in order to meet specific and unexpected needs. Thank you for the way you as a congregation have accepted and supported what we are doing.

This coming weekend is Memorial Day weekend. It is also Pentecost Sunday. Our focus in worship will be on the coming of the Holy Spirit into the midst of the church and the way in which that coming completely energized God's people after the ascension of Jesus. Pentecost Sunday represents the birth of the church, but it is also the day when the church had its power turned on. We will talk about what a spirit led and spirit filled church looks like today. Hope to see you Sunday.

Grace and peace,

Reece

### Ayden Christian Church

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252-746-3555  
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### Pastors' Office Hours:

Tuesday & Wednesday  
8:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

### Church Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday  
8 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Friday  
8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

### Link of the Week:

[Finding Forever](#)



[Claim Free Tickets  
at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/  
finding-forever-family-production-  
tickets-532071910407](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/finding-forever-family-production-tickets-532071910407)

## Scripture for Sunday

### Acts 2:1-21 (RSV)

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. 6 And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. 7 And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? 9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." 12 And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13 But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. 15 For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day; 16 but this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

17 'And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; 18 yea, and on my menservants and my maidservants in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. 19 And I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth beneath, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; 20 the sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and manifest day. 21 And it shall be that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

### Acts 2:40-47

40 And he testified with many other words and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." 41 So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. 42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

43 And fear came upon every soul; and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common; 45 and they sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they partook of food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

## Announcements

### Scholarship

Scholarship applications are available on the table in the vestibule by the church office. Please return completed applications to the church office by Sunday, May 28 at noon. Scholarships will be awarded on Graduation Sunday. See Marty Stancil for more information.

### Fellowships

The CMF/CWF is now known as Disciple's Men's Fellowship (DMF) and Disciples Women's Fellowship (DWF). The next meeting will be June 6 at 6:30 p.m. Please come and bring a dish to share.

### Thank You

Ayden Christian Church,

Thank you for the performance stage & bringing it to Camp Caroline. I hope we get a lot of campers on that stage singing silly songs and praising the Lord! Thank you for your prayers this camp season & your love for Camp Caroline.

The best is yet to be,  
Amber Elliot

### Community Summer Meal Program

New Kingdom of Judah Ministries will provide breakfast and lunch for any child in the Ayden area from June 20 through August 17, 2023. *(see flyer)*

### Family Production

We are invited to attend "Finding Forever" by The First Church in Goldsboro. "Finding Forever" tells the wonderful story of Molly Mitchell, a middle schooler whose dramatic journey spans emotions ranging from the grief of losing her parents to the thrill of being adopted out of foster care. Molly attends a spring break camp with the hopes of meeting new friends and bonding with prospective adoptive parents, only to experience the everyday tensions of fitting in and finding a sense of belonging while dealing with a group of mean girls. Upon this, she runs away into the woods and a daring search reunites Molly with the campers. Throughout her journey, she discovers the real love of a forever family who welcome her into their hearts. Free tickets can be claimed at the link below.



<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/finding-forever-family-production-tickets-532071910407>

## Opportunities This Week

### Adult Sunday School

Sunday School begins at 8:30 a.m. in Johnson Hall. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

### Sunday Morning Worship

Come worship with us Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m.! For those who are not able to attend, find us on Facebook for a live stream.

### Youth Church

We welcome all youth in grades K-8 to worship the Lord in a "youthful" setting after Children's Minute during the regular church service.



### Pentecost Offering



Your gifts to the 2023 Pentecost Offering, received this year on May 21 and 28, help ensure our movement continues to embody the Disciples of Christ vision: to be and to share the Good News,

witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth. Half of your gift supports the local new church movement through your region's ministry. The other half supports New Church Ministry efforts across the United States and Canada to equip, train, and empower new leaders.

### Choir Practice

The choir will practice Sunday immediately following the worship service. If you love to sing, please join us!



### Prayer & Bible Study Group

The Prayer and Bible Study Group meets on Tuesdays at 1 p.m. Everyone is invited.



## Dates to Remember



### May

- 25 - Hookerton District Union Meeting
- 26 - Ross Gunst
- 28 - Pentecost Offering
  - Scholarship applications due
- 29 - Bear & Sarah Baldree
- 30 - Brooks Buck
  - Wesley & Connie Hardee

### June

- 5 - Joanna Murphrey
- 6 - Robert & Amanda Abbott
  - CMF/CWF Dinner
- 9 - K.R. Roberson
- 10 - Ryan Hardee
  - Ned & B.J. Craft
- 11 - Wilson Venters
- 13 - Ronnie Huggins
  - Andrew Shue
- 15 - Colin Baldree
  - Keith & Scottie Gaskins
- 19 - Denelle Roberson
- 22 - Robert & Sandy Spence
- 25 - Connie Hardee
- 27 - Addison Hardee
- 28 - Ray & Carol Ann Hardee
- 29 - Thomas & Trudy Tyson
  - Wilson & Katherine Venters
- 30 - Coy & Brooks Buck
  - Ed & Ann Carraway

*Please submit all items for next week's newsletter no later than Tuesday at 12 p.m.*

# Serving Schedule

*If you are unable to serve, please find a replacement and let the church office know. We like to have the correct names in the bulletin.*

## **This Sunday, May 28**

- \* A/V: Sadie Horton
- \* Acolyte: Easton Ausbon
- \* Children's Minute: Gaynell Deans
  - \* Scripture: Acts 2:1-21; 40-47
  - \* Sermon Title: "A Spirit Filled Church"
- \* Elders: Carol Ann & Ray Hardee
- \* Greeters: Becky & Steve McLawhorn
- \* Mic Runner: Gaye Morgan
- \* Worship Leader: Darlene Worthington Baker
- \* Worship Rep: Steve McLawhorn

## **Service Chairs for May**

- \* Joyce Barnes, Alice Huggins

## **Next Sunday, June 4**

- \* A/V: Sadie Horton
- \* Acolyte: Addison Hardee
- \* Children's Minute: Jennifer Hardee
- \* Elders: Joyce Barnes, Gaynell Deans
- \* Greeters: Reed Hardee, Ryan Hardee
- \* Mic Runner: Becky McLawhorn
- \* Worship Leader: Sarah Taylor
- \* Worship Rep: Tommy Stancil

## **Service Chairs for June**

- \* Donna LaMotte, Lou Anne Sutton